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PORT ARGENT. A Novel. By Arthur Colton. With a frontispiece by Eliot Keen. New York: Henry Holt & Co. \$1.50.

Arthur Colton is distinctly a writer in whom persons of a certain trend of thought, rather than the indiscriminate mass, would be interested. He cares not so much for an individual character as that the character should represent some movement or principle he has in mind, not so much for a fact or a situation as its significance.

"Port Argent" is a town of old civilization and tradition, finding itself suddenly in the throes of modern development. It decided one morning that it had a "boss." Everyone was pleased. "It sounded metropolitan;" and "Someone said 'We're a humming town'." It had its sensational preacher to whom his converts had said, "You've got no beliefs that I can make head or tail of. Eccentric youth, go ahead!" And he had gone ahead in Port Argent. A talented young engineer, one of Port Argent's own sons, was laying off boulevards, planning parks, erecting bridges.

The new spirit is grafted on the old—a sturdy New England common sense and homely humour showing how old and new may come harmoniously together. The many deviations, incidents and sketches, which the author permits himself, connect with a pleasant love story.

THE DIVINE FIRE. By May Sinclair. New York: Henry Holt & Co. \$1.50.

This volume is a study of the character of a man of genius and of his development amid mental and moral pitfalls: it is divided into four books, each constituting an epoch in his life.

Book I, "Disjecta Membra Poetae," gives the origin and early environment of the poet, the fact of his vulgar birth and certain inherited traits, his growing up in a second-hand book shop, his yielding to the temptations of his class, the almost entire lack of refinement in the influences around him. It is indeed a period of scattering but a mighty gathering together is promised.

Book II, "Lucia's Way," introduces an entire change of scene: Keith Richman is sent from his shop to catalogue the library in an English country house. Lucia, a delicate type of refined and cultured womanhood, presides over the perfectly appointed